

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 AID-20 SAL-01 DRC-01 /164 W

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P 212300Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2962

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 4580

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR NU

SUBJECT: BOGOTA MEETING OF LA FOREIGN MINISTERS

REF: STATE 227685

1. CHARGE DISCUSSED SUBJECT CONFERENCE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MONTIEL NOV 21. MONTIEL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD GONE TO BOGOTA CONSIDERABLY CONCERNED THAT THE CONFERENCE MIGHT BE PREMATURE AND HURRIEDLY PREPARED AND HE WAS SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL ABOUT ITS OUTCOME. HE CONFESSED TO HAVING BEEN PLEASANTLY SURPRISED BY THE ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT WAY THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED, SATISFIED AT THE RESULTS AND OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE. MONTIEL FELT THAT A GENUINE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION PREVAILED AT BOGOTA EVEN AMONG THE TRADITIONAL PROPONENTS OF CONFRONTATION. AS A RESULT THE DELEGATES WERE SPARED THE USUAL POLEMICS AND BORING SPEECHES AND THROUGH REASONABLE DISCUSSIONS AND A PERVASIVE WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE, THEY WERE ABLE TO REACH ALL DECISIONS BY CONSENSUS. MONTIEL VOLUNTEERED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S MESSAGE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASING TO THE DELEGATES AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE SPIRIT OF OPTIMISM ON WHICH THE CONFERENCE ENDED.

2. ON SPECIFIC ISSUES, MONTIEL NOTED THAT THE PERUVIANS PRESSED THEIR CASE FOR STRONG LANGUAGE ON ECONOMIC AGGRESSION BUT NEVERTHELESS ACCEPTED A WEAKER CONSENSUS VERSION. HE WAS SURPRISED

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WHEN JAMAICA TOOK THE LEAD ON COBA, AND FELT THE DELEGATES HAD

ACTED WISELY IN SUPPRESSING ITS ATTEMPTS TO INCLUDE THIS QUESTION. MONTIEL CONFIRMED MEXICO'S INITIATIVE ON THE PANAMA CANAL QUESTION, NOTING THAT FOREIGN MINISTER RABASA HAD TOLD HIM HE INTENDED TO PURSUE THIS LINE WHEN HE DROPPED THROUGH MANAGUA EN ROUTE TO BOGOTA. MONTIEL INDICATED THAT THE FAVORABLE COMPROMISE ON PANAMA CANAL LANGUAGE WAS FACILITATED BY A MORE REASONABLE PANAMANIAN ATTITUDE. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TACK, MONTIEL GAINED THE DEFINITE IMPRESSION THAT THE PANAMANIAN ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT WHEN NEGOTIATIONS ARE RESUMED. WHEN MONTIEL ASKED TACK IF THE PANAMANIAN REALLY EXPECTED TO GET EVERYTHING THEY ARE DEMANDING, TACK SMILED AND REPLIED "THIS IS NEGOTIATION". FURTHER, MONTIEL NOTED THAT THERE IS SOLID LATIN AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR THE BASIC PANAMANIAN POSITION ON THE CANAL.

3. REGARDING THE ACTIONS OF OTHER DELEGATES AT BOGOTA, MONTIEL SAID HE WAS MOST IMPRESSED BY THE PERFORMANCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER CALVANI, WHOM HE FELT PLAYED A POSITIVE, LEADERSHIP ROLE. HE NOTE THE DILIGENT AND EFFICIENT WORK OF THE BRAZILIANS, BUT DID NOT CREDIT THEM WITH BEING OVERLY INFLUENTIAL. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OBSERVED THAT THE CHILEAN DELEGATES WERE TREATED JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE AND NO ONE ATTEMPTED TO GIVE THEM THE COLD SHOULDER. MONTIEL DID NOT COMMENT ON HIS OWN PERFORMANCE, BUT INDICATED THAT GUATEMALA, WITH WHOM HE WORKED CLOSELY, GENERALLY TOOK THE LEAD FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICANS.

4. IN SUM, MONTIEL CONFIRMED THE CONVERSION FROM SKEPTICISM TO OPTIMISM REPORTED IN BOGOTA 9439. HE BELIEVES THE "NEW DIALOUGE" IS OFF TO A GOOD START AND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT ROUND IN MEXICO CITY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS SHOULD BE ONLY THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH THE SECRETARY BECAUSE ONE MEETING COULD NOT HOPE TO RESOLVE ALL THE PROBLEMS.  
WARNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, CANALS, SELFDETERMINATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 227685  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <08 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BOGOTA MEETING OF LA FOREIGN MINISTERS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NU, XM, PQ, PN, (MONTIEAL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005